

Board Administration and Regulatory Coordination Unit

Division 3. Air Resources Board

Chapter 1. Air Resources Board

Subchapter 1.5. Air Basins and Air Quality Standards

Article 3. Criteria for Determining Area Designations

§ 70304. Criteria for Designating an Area as Attainment.

(a) The state board will designate an area as attainment for a pollutant if:

(1) Data for record show that no state standard for that pollutant was violated at any site in the area; and

(2) Data for record meet representativeness and completeness criteria for a location at which the pollutant concentrations are expected to be high based on the spatial distribution of emission sources in the area and the relationship of emissions to air quality. Data representativeness criteria are set forth in “Criteria for Determining Data Representativeness” contained in Appendix 1 to this article. Data completeness criteria are set forth in “Criteria for Determining Data Completeness” contained in Appendix 3 to this article.

(b) Where there are limited or no air quality data for an area, the state board will designate the area as attainment for a pollutant it finds that no state standard for that pollutant has been violated in that area based on:

(1) Air quality data collected in the area during the most recent period since 1980 which meet the conditions in (a) above;

(2) Emissions of that pollutant or its precursors in the area have not increased since that period to a level at which the standard might be exceeded; and

(3) Air quality data collected in the area since the time period in (1) above do not show a violation of the state standard.

(c) Where an area has limited or no air quality data for nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, sulfates, and lead (particulate), the state board shall designate that area attainment for a pollutant if it finds that no state standard for that pollutant has been violated in that area based on the “Screening Procedure for Determining Attainment Designations for Areas with Incomplete Air Quality Data” set forth in Appendix 4 to this article.

(d) A nonattainment area will not be redesignated as attainment for a pollutant if:

(1) Data for record for the monitoring site showing the greatest violation of a state standard for that pollutant no longer are available; and

(2) No other site has been identified as equivalent by the executive officer.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601, 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 39607 and 39608, Health and Safety Code.

REFERENCE